

A GREAT CHRISTIAN LAWYER.

The late Mr. Reader Harris, K. C., of London, is described by the "Westminster Gazette" as representing an "unusual welding of religious work with legal eminence." Much of his law business came from railway companies; and one day he found on his desk a brief instructing him to appear before a bench of magistrates, with a view to persuading them to grant a liquor license to some premises owned by one of the big railway corporations. The brief was marked fifty guineas; but Mr. Harris returned the brief to the company's solicitor. This done, he felt apprehensive lest the incident should close his business relations with one of his most profitable clients. To his surprise, in about a week the brief was returned to him, marked one hundred guineas. This time he sent it back with a note, explaining that his refusal was due to principle, and that the increase of fee left him obliged but persistent; and thinking over it later, he felt more certain than ever that he must expect no more business from the company. The suspicion meant so much to him that when early in the next week he met in the street one of its directors, he said to him, "I hope you people were not annoyed at my returning that brief." The director smiled an inscrutable smile. "Oh, no," he replied, "we were not annoyed, not we! I'll tell you about it." "Do," urged Mr. Harris, much relieved. "Well," continued the director, "you know So-and-so, the big brewer?" Mr. Harris assented. "He," said the director, "was sitting on our board for the first time at the meeting at which our solicitor reported you had returned the brief. 'Who's this psalm-singing humbug?' he asked. 'Mark the brief a hundred guineas, and I'll bet you anything you like he'll take it.' 'Oh, you will, will you?' asked the chairman. You see, we all knew you, Harris. We took the brewer on at five to one in five-pound notes, and he booked the bet with every one of us. I've collected my money since. Oh, no, we were not annoyed."

Questioned one day as to the possibility of living a Christian life and being a lawyer, the late K.C. replied, with a smile: "The most difficult calling of all in which to be truly saintly is that of the ministry. As a matter of fact lawyers are very susceptible to religious influences, and a large number of them are godly men. Our Lord Chancellors, for many years past, have been Christian men. I do not believe that there is any honest business in which it is not possible to serve God and to work for Him."

The disposition in both this country and abroad to completely secularize the public schools only emphasizes the duty of parents to give that training in religion which it is their business to give regardless of the public school's use or rejection of religious training. No amount of Bible reading or general religious training in the schools exempts the father and mother from their duty. The child is put in their hands and they determine its weal or woe. The faithful parent can claim God's covenant promise, and he only can claim it for his own child.

Quiet Hour

PRAYER.

O Lord, we thank Thee for strength to do Thy will. Continue this strength, Lord, as in old days, and withdraw not Thy face from us, for without the sunshine of Thy glance we can not live. Give us Thy hope, which is the chief strength of man, and without which he can not fight on. But first give us Thy love, which is the bread by which man lives, and for which we crave in the name of Jesus Christ, Thy Son. Amen.

REACHING BEYOND.

"If a man compel thee to go with him a mile, go with him twain," was the Saviour's way of laying upon His disciples the burden of guarding and helping the traveler. Law and the spirit of the people demanded that men share with a stranger or neighbor the perils and burdens of traveling. Christ would have us surpass legal demands and act from loving impulses. When we have reached the limit of the law, and propose to double the distance our fellow-traveler begins to look intently at us, and to wonder what sort of a man he has found. He enters upon an interesting investigation. He opens to us a door of unusual advantage. We may walk into the realm of his thoughts, and climb up the ladder of his appreciation. What a time that last hour of a journey is for conversation, impression, conviction, conversion, and for making all the rest of his journey very different from all that preceded it! Does the distress of the poor and needy demand of you your money? Give him more. Give him yourself. He needs a heart beside his more than he needs food and covering. The best shelter the storm-driven life-mariner can find is the open, loving heart. He who has mistaken the heart way is worse astray and more terribly imperiled than any mountain traveler amid wild beasts, or worse even than they, the beasts in human form, who wound him with sin and tear away righteousness and purity.—The Examiner.

UNSPOTTED FROM THE WORLD.

The one absorbing theme of the New Testament is personal, practical righteousness. It dares to reckon the good, however socially obscure or scholastically inferior, of greater rank than the most brilliantly gifted. It sets itself to expound and establish moral worth, and will see and consider nothing else. The writers of the Epistles knew all about the crowns and garlands reserved for poets, athletes, and heroes; yet the only wreath they celebrate is the crown of righteousness. They were in constant contact with superb pictures, sculpture, and architectures; they, however, recognized no beauty except that of holiness. They were familiar with illustrious scholars, orators, and philosophers; but they bestow their whole praise on the simple believer who keeps himself unspotted from the world.—Rev. W. L. Watkinson, in "The Supreme Conquest."

The love of earth may fade and fail;
A parent e'en a child forsake;
But when the loves of earth are done,
The arms of God his child will take.